

CHAPTER 111  
FAMILY-LIFE HOMES

[Prior to 7/1/83, Social Services[770] Ch 111]  
[Prior to 2/11/87, Human Services[498]]

**441—111.1(249) Definitions.**

**111.1(1) *Family-life home.*** A family-life home is a private household offering a protective social living arrangement for one or two eligible adults who are not able or willing to adequately maintain themselves in an independent living arrangement, but who are essentially capable of physical self-care. In this living arrangement, the family provides the client room, board, laundry, encouragement to share in the interests and activities of the household, and opportunities for participation in the social, cultural, educational, religious, and other activities of the community.

**111.1(2) *Private household.*** A private household is a dwelling unit occupied exclusively by a family and furnished by and belonging to them by reason of ownership, rental, or by a contract for purchase of life estate.

**111.1(3) *Eligible adult.*** An eligible adult is a person 18 years of age or older who meets the eligibility requirements for services or is a recipient of protective services, and who is considering or needs a living arrangement in a family-life home.

**111.1(4) *Family.*** A family is a person or persons, either related or unrelated to the client, who constitute the members of the household and are related to one another by kinship of blood, marriage, or adoption.

**111.1(5) *Not able or willing to adequately maintain themselves in an independent living arrangement.*** Not able or willing to adequately maintain themselves in an independent living arrangement means that the person requires some assistance, encouragement, or social stimulation for adequate self-care or to maintain physical or mental health or personal safety.

**111.1(6) *Essentially capable of self-care.*** Essentially capable of self-care means the person is ambulatory or can move from place to place; can manage the activities of daily living including personal hygiene and grooming, toileting, dressing and undressing, feeding, and medicating; and can attend to the care of personal property adequately with minimal support or occasional assistance.

**111.1(7) *Encouragement to share in the interests and activities of the household.*** Encouragement to share in the interests and activities of the household means that the family members welcome and encourage the person to participate with them in their general family conversations and in their social, recreational, educational, and religious activities; that they invite and encourage use of the general facilities of their home; and they expect the person to care for assigned living quarters and participate within reason in the chores of the household.

**441—111.2(249) Application for certification.**

**111.2(1)** The Iowa department of human services shall issue a certificate of approval for the operation of a family-life home upon the recommendation of a local office of the department of human services.

**111.2(2)** Any person has the right to make application for a family-life home certificate.

**111.2(3)** Persons wishing to care for adults shall make application to the local office of the department of human services.

**111.2(4)** When an applicant has reached a decision to operate a family-life home, such applicant shall complete Form SS-1108-0, Application for Certification.

**111.2(5)** Each applicant shall supply two references which may be contacted by the local office.

**441—111.3(249) Provisions pertaining to the certificate.**

**111.3(1)** No family-life home shall be certified to provide a living arrangement for more than two eligible adults.

**111.3(2)** At least one responsible adult member of the family shall be at the family dwelling or be reasonably available to the client, most of the daytime and nighttime hours, based on the service worker's assessment of the individual's need for supervision.

**111.3(3)** The certificate shall be effective for one year from date issued subject to continued compliance with rules governing the program.

**111.3(4)** The certificate shall not be transferred to another person nor be valid for an address other than that shown on the certificate issued.

**111.3(5)** A current certificate shall be in the possession of the certified family-life home, and be available for inspection.

**111.3(6)** There shall be no fee nor charge for certificate issued.

**111.3(7)** A certified family-life home shall not be concurrently licensed as a residential care facility, intermediate care facility, child care center or a foster family home. An exception may be made for a home to be concurrently licensed as a foster family home and certified as a family-life home in order to provide continued care for a person who was placed in the home as a foster child.

**441—111.4(249) Physical standards.**

**111.4(1)** The family-life home shall be safe, clean, well ventilated, properly lighted and heated. The family's dwelling shall comply with all local health ordinances.

**111.4(2)** The family's dwelling shall not be a dwelling unit furnished by or belonging to a client.

**111.4(3)** Sleeping rooms shall be suitably and comfortably furnished.

**111.4(4)** Each resident shall have a single bedroom unless there is agreement among the family and the residents that a room may be shared.

**111.4(5)** The family shall provide nutritional food, in sufficient quantity to meet the needs of the client.

**441—111.5(249) Personal characteristics of family-life home family.**

**111.5(1)** The adult head of the household shall be a mature, responsible individual who is physically able to maintain a household, and who shall exercise good judgment in caring for adults.

**111.5(2)** The family shall have an appreciation of and respect for the client's relationship with the client's own relatives, neighbors and friends.

**111.5(3)** The family shall respect the client's religious background and affiliation.

**111.5(4)** The family shall have sufficient income and resources to provide adequately for the family's own needs.

**441—111.6(249) Health of family.**

**111.6(1)** Prior to certification the family shall furnish the local department of human services with a medical report on each member of the household. The report shall be on Form SS-1718-0, Physician's Report for Family-Life Home Provider.

**111.6(2)** The medical report shall provide significant findings of a physician, such as the presence or absence of any communicable disease.

**111.6(3)** Medical re-examinations may be required at the discretion of a physician or the local department of human services.

**441—111.7(249) Planned activities and personal effects.**

**111.7(1)** The daily routine shall be to promote and provide an opportunity for normal activity with time for rest and recreation compatible with the needs of the client.

**111.7(2)** Every client shall be encouraged to develop social relationships through participation in neighborhood and other community and group activities.

**111.7(3)** The family shall not require a client to do general housecleaning, cooking, or child care for the family. A client may voluntarily share in these responsibilities.

**111.7(4)** Space shall be provided where a client may keep personal belongings.

**441—111.8(249) Client eligibility.**

**111.8(1)** The client shall be 18 years of age or older, as proven by birth or school records, personal records, or by records of the department or another agency.

**111.8(2)** The client shall be willing to live in a certified family-life home by the client's own declaration or the declaration of a person legally responsible for such client.

**111.8(3)** The client shall be willing to accept the terms and requirements of the family-life home program.

**111.8(4)** The client shall be capable of personal physical self-care.

**441—111.9(249) Medical examinations, records, and care of a client.**

**111.9(1)** A physician shall certify that the client is free from any communicable disease, and does not require a higher level of care than that provided by a family-life home. The certification shall be given prior to placement and an annual medical review thereafter. The certification shall be given on Form SS-1719-0, Physician's Certification for Family-Life Home Resident.

**111.9(2)** The family shall have available at all times, the name, address and telephone number of the client's physician.

**111.9(3)** The family shall keep the department informed of any health problems. The family shall immediately notify the department in case of an accident, illness, or emergency that may affect the placement.

**441—111.10(249) Placement agreement.** The head of the family-life home and the resident shall enter into a placement agreement by signing Form SS-1508-0, Placement Agreement Family-Life Home, provided by the department.

**441—111.11(249) Legal liabilities.** The worker shall advise the family to seek counsel regarding the family's needs for insurance to cover personal injury, property damage, and other legal contingencies.

**441—111.12(249) Emergency care and release of client.**

**111.12(1)** In case of an emergency, vacation, or overnight trip, requiring the family's temporary absence from the home, the local department shall be notified and arrangements shall be made with a designated, responsible person for the care of a client during the period of absence.

**111.12(2)** The department shall be notified when the client leaves or the client or family expresses a desire for the client to leave the family-life home.

**441—111.13(249) Information about client to be confidential.** Information concerning a client, the client's family, and the client's background shall be regarded and handled as confidential by all persons involved in the client's care.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 234.6(6) "*e*" and 249.3(2) "*a*"(1).

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